

## Principal's Newsletter

8 September 2023

Dear Parents,

In my Chapter 7 RS class, one pupil described the Big Bang to me. He was clearly informed about it. His description reminded me of the momentum, speed, energy, and creativity of the beginning of this school year.

Yes, we are OFF, beginning the 2023-2024 school year with a serious sense of purpose. It is wonderful to see Reception settling in beautifully, initially with parental accompaniment, now as pupils at the school, engaging in the learning opportunities provided by this excellent weather. This ability of teachers to bring pupils right back into the routines and expectations of school, and to use the recommitment to learning is on display everywhere.

This year, in response to parental requests, we have increased the number of meetings for parents on campus. This led to the beginning of year meetings in all chapters. It is impressive to see some parents attend all of these for the several children they have in the school. The meetings are about expectations, routines, changes and especially about how we can work together to make the school better. For me attending these events is a glimpse into the care, dedication, and planning of teachers and staff across the school. My hope is that these meetings will evolve over time and become an ever more effective way of exchanging views and information, and ensuring that teachers, staff and leaders get to know parents and vice versa.

An important message from Mrs Lines for secondary phase parents:

*Today the My Child at School App and Student Portal are fully live. You can access your child's timetable, reports and behaviour points from the MCAS app as well as all school communication.*

*Satchel One is where all homework can be seen.*

Our first school assemblies have focused on two things. The first is the introduction of reflection assemblies to replace Chapel and non-Chapel. This is an initiative driven by pupils who rightly, in my view, wanted to find a way to end the Chapel-non chapel division and reflect together. We are looking forward to the development of these assemblies for Chapters 3-13. Another major change has been the new mobile phone policy in the senior school. The effect of no phones in senior school has been immediate. We feel strongly that the maintenance of

this policy (a ban on possessing or using a phone on school campus) is a key part of our strategy to improve behaviour, communal life and relationships, attitude to learning, and quality of engagement. Your support for this policy is much appreciated.

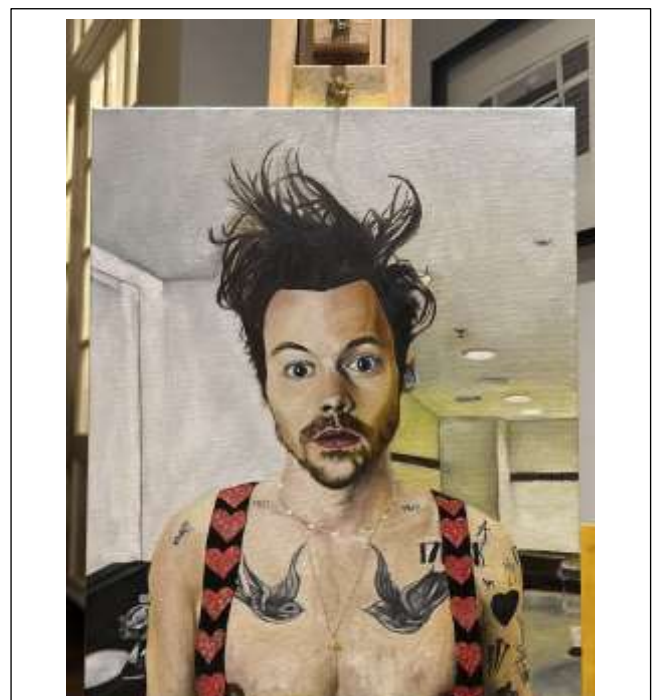
Sport practices have started and will be in full swing next week. I was especially pleased to hear of some Chapter 11 boys who had voluntarily come down to help with the introduction of the new Chapter 7 to rugby. The prefects in Chapter 6 are at the point of being announced. Mrs Kelly invited secondary pupils to participate in her anti-racism campaign at assembly today. The development of character, a central theme of the College in its 183 year existence, is captured by our Character Charter, traits we wish to develop in our pupils alongside their intellectual traits. We will be highlighting those pupils who exhibit these traits.



Congratulations to Mrs Latham (Head of Boarding), her boarding team and all of our boarders after their community and charitable work has been formally recognised by the Boarding Schools' Association. We are now officially a BSA On Board Partner School and details of our boarders' charitable efforts feature in this terms' BSA Magazine.

Each week in this newsletter I highlight some of the amazing art our pupils and students produce.

Today's artist of the week, nominated by Ms McWatt, is Dylan D (Ch13) with an oil painting he did of Harry Styles using a portrait from his recent tour. The piece took around 35 hours to complete.



Mr Bishop (Director of Music) has asked me to highlight the opportunity for pupils in primary and secondary to take instrumental music lessons at the school. For further information, please [click here](#).

An important message from our PTA Committee:



*Welcome back to a new LC Year! We hope you had a restful summer. Please ensure you read the PTA Newsletter as it holds a lot of information that for all parents and staff regarding our main events for September.*

*Our primary event is our Annual General meeting where you will be voting for your new committee - whether you choose new volunteers to take over or keep your existing, this is the place to do it.*

*The link is below, Tuesday 12th September at 7pm on Teams.*

[https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting\\_MzkxZDRhMWQtOGIwNC00NmY1LWlyMWYtNzFlNjBmMjQ5YjRk%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22id%22%3a%2260df1be8-8796-4191-bea9-80832ad2e4a5%22%2c%22oid%22%3a%22ffb332e2-f985-497c-bfee-dc0d42c046f8%22%7d](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_MzkxZDRhMWQtOGIwNC00NmY1LWlyMWYtNzFlNjBmMjQ5YjRk%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22id%22%3a%2260df1be8-8796-4191-bea9-80832ad2e4a5%22%2c%22oid%22%3a%22ffb332e2-f985-497c-bfee-dc0d42c046f8%22%7d)

*Tap on the link or paste it in a browser to join.*

This is the time of year when pupils and students have a chance to sign up and try something new. The Greek Academy, hosted at Liverpool College, is an amazing experience which I can recommend fully:

*This project is a unique opportunity for students in Year 9, 10, 11, 12 or 13 and above in and around Liverpool to learn Ancient Greek. The project is funded by the charity [Classics for All](#) and run in conjunction with Liverpool University. It is entirely free for students to attend and classes are held at Liverpool College on Saturday mornings during term time. At the end of the first year students have the opportunity to sit an [Intermediate Greek Certificate](#) which is equivalent to a half GCSE and as well as being endorsed by a number of leading universities and organisations it is now recognised as a QIP by UCAS which means that universities can recognise the qualification. Students who pass this can then go on to study a full GCSE the following year if they want to.*

*All details can be found here: <https://classicsforallnorth.org.uk/schools> including a link for students to sign up or on the information flyer [here](#). The **closing date for applications is Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September** and the first lesson is on the 16<sup>th</sup> September.*

As the number of pupils and parents in the school increases, readership of this newsletter is, it seems, in decline. For this reason, we have decided to share some of the news and information in the even better section of this newsletter on social media also. You can follow us here:

- Facebook - Liverpool College, even better
- Instagram - @liverpoolcollege\_evenbetter
- X (formerly Twitter) - @LC\_EvenBetter

I am looking forward to keeping you posted on the various activities, initiatives, ideas, and victories which will flow through our gates during the course of the year.

After a great first week, I ask for your continued support and wish you a dry and pleasant weekend.

**Yours sincerely,**

**Mr H van Mourik Broekman**  
**Principal**

### **Dates for the Diary**

Advance notice of some key dates:

#### **Founders' Day - Friday 6 October 2023**

For those parents and pupils who are new to the school, we celebrate the founding of the school every year in October. Founders' Day this year will be on Friday 6 October and as usual, **school will be closed that day with no lessons in any part of the school.** A Service takes place at 12pm in Liverpool Anglican Cathedral for Chapters 3-13 and further information about arrangements will be provided early in the term.

#### **Parent Information Evenings**

Parent information evenings take place every term and are open to all parents. During the meeting, which is led by the Principal, updates are provided by school leadership on current issues and future plans and there is also an opportunity for parents to ask questions on areas they wish to discuss.

This year's parent information evenings are currently scheduled to take place on:

- Thursday 7 December at 5.30pm
- Thursday 29 February at 5.30pm
- Thursday 20 June at 5.30pm

A reminder and further information will be provided nearer the time.